

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 10: Cancelled

11. (New) An extruder having a transfer region and comprising:

an extruder sleeve 12 that in said transfer region is provided with first ribs 20, wherein flow channels 22 extend between said ribs; and

an extruder screw 14 disposed in said extruder sleeve 12 and provided with second ribs 16 between which extend flow channels 18 that face said flow channels 22 of said extruder sleeve 12, wherein said first ribs 20 of said extruder sleeve 12 have a ridge that faces said extruder screw 14, wherein said ridge has a width that corresponds to at least one third of a width of said flow channels 22 of said extruder sleeve 12, and wherein between ridges of said second ribs 16 of said extruder screw 14 and said ridges of said first ribs 20 of said extruder sleeve 12 a gap 24 is formed that corresponds to greater than 0.5% of a diameter of said extruder screw 14.

12. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein said ridges of said first ribs 20 of said extruder sleeve 12 respectively have a width of at least one half of said width of said flow channels 22 of said extruder sleeve.

13. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein said ridges of said first ribs 20 of said extruder sleeve 12 respectively have a width of approximately 80 to 100% of said width of said flow channels 22 of said extruder sleeve.

14. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein said gap 24 corresponds to approximately one percent of the diameter of said extruder screw 14.

15. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein said gap 24 has a width that corresponds to at least one of: at least two percent of the diameter of the extruder

screw and at least 15% of the sum of heights of said first and second ribs 20, 16.

16. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein each of said ridges of said extruder sleeve 12 and said extruder screw 14 is provided with an incline 26, 28 in which said gap 24 is increased to at least 3% of the diameter of the extruder screw, and wherein a normal of said ridges is inclined relative to a direction of rotation of said extruder screw 14.

17. (New) An extruder according to claim 16, wherein said gap 24 is increased to more than 5% of the diameter of said extruder screw 14.

18. (New) An extruder according to claim 16, wherein an incline 28 of said ridge of said first ribs 20 of said extruder sleeve 12 is a portion of the width of said ridge.

19. (New) An extruder according to claim 18, wherein said incline 28 is slightly more than one half of the width of said ridge.

20. (New) An extruder according to claim 18, wherein said incline 28 is a forward three fifths of the width of said ridge when viewed in a direction of rotation of said extruder screw 14.

21. (New) An extruder according to claim 18, wherein the ridges of said second ribs 16 of said extruder screw 14 are also provided with an incline.

22. (New) An extruder according to claim 21, wherein said incline of said ridges of said second ribs 16 is provided at a forward edge as viewed in a direction of rotation of said extruder screw.

23. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein the ridges of said ribs 16, 18 of at least one of said extruder screw 14 and said extruder sleeve 12 are

provided with a rounded portion or a bevel at a forward edge as viewed in a direction of rotation of said extruder screw.

24. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein said gap 24 is at least 0.5% in only a portion of said transfer region, and in a remainder of said transfer region is approximately 1% of the diameter of said extruder screw 14.

25. (New) An extruder according to claim 11, wherein said gap 24 between said extruder screw 14 and said extruder sleeve 12 is a shear gap in which material that is to be extruded is subjected to elastic flows or shear flows.

26. (New) An extruder comprising:

an extruder sleeve 12 provided with first ribs 20, wherein flow channels 22 extend between said ribs; and

an extruder screw 14 that runs in said extruder sleeve 12 and is provided with second ribs 16, wherein flow channels 18 extend between said second ribs, wherein said first and second ribs 20, 16 have respective ridges having a width that corresponds to approximately one third of a width of said flow channels 18 of said extruder screw 14, and wherein a gap 24 of at least 1mm is provided between said extruder sleeve 12 and said extruder screw 14.

27. (New) An extruder according to claim 26, wherein said ridges of said ribs have a width that corresponds to approximately one half of the width of said flow channels 18 of said extruder screw 14.

28. (New) An extruder according to claim 26, wherein said ridges of said ribs have a width that corresponds to approximately 80 to 120% of the width of said flow

channels 18 of said extruder screw 14.

29. (New) An extruder according to claim 26, wherein said gap 24 is between 1.5 and 3mm.

30. (New) An extruder according to claim 26, wherein said gap 24 between said extruder screw 14 and said extruder sleeve 12 is a shear gap in which material that is to be extruded is subjected to elastic flows or shear flows.